

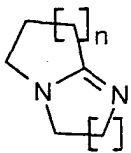
Preparation of  $\beta$ -alkoxynitriles

## Abstract

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A process for preparing  $\beta$ -alkoxynitriles by reacting  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated nitriles with monohydric, dihydric or trihydric alcohols in the presence of basic catalysts at from  $-20$  to  $+200^\circ\text{C}$  comprises using a diazabicycloalkene catalyst of the formula I

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where from 1 to 4 hydrogen atoms may be independently replaced by the radicals  $R^1$  to  $R^4$ , in which case

20  $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4$  are each  $C_{1-20}$ -alkyl,  $C_{6-20}$ -aryl or  $C_{7-20}$ -arylalkyl, and

n and m are each an integer from 1 to 6.

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